

MINUTES

Board of Trustees

Barrington Public Library

March 17, 2005

Members Present: R. Alley, S. Blumstein, V. Edwards, B. Moore, A. Noto, V. Peterson

Members Absent: R. Darling

Also Present: D. Barchi, Library Director; Jeff Brenner, liason to the library and President of the Town Council; Jeff Hoover, architect from Tappe; Ted Wetherill, Clerk of the Works; Cindy Van Schalkwyk, reporter for Barrington Times

Presiding: R. Alley, Chair

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

It was agreed to hold the minutes and normal order of the agenda to the end of the meeting so that we could immediately discuss the progress of the library renovations.

· One issue of immediate concern is fire safety. Originally, the assumption had been that we could use the current system which had been installed in the 80's with the addition of a supplemental panel to meet current fire codes. However, it was discovered that the new panel would not be compatible with the old system (which had components in it from the 70's) and there would not be replacement component parts if anything went wrong with the old system. Thus, a comprehension upgrade seemed to be a potentially important but unanticipated option. Several questions were then raised. What would

be the cost of an upgraded system and who would pay for it? The Peck Center is owned by the town and houses more than the library. Thus, the Trustees do not have the authority to approve an upgrade for the entire building. Jeff Brenner indicated that the appropriations committee needed to be notified. It was agreed that cost estimates would be drawn up within the next two weeks, and further discussion would be required to determine the method of payment. However, because no demolition would be required, this will not slow down the project. After further discussion the Trustees passed the following motion:

‘The Trustees agree that it is prudent to upgrade the fire alarm system for the whole building. It was moved and approved that we upgrade the fire alarm system contingent upon the approval of the town manager, Peter De Angelis.’

- There was discussion about how change orders get approved since they need approval in a timely fashion. It was agreed that a small committee consisting of the Chair, Bob Alley, and Alison Noto will approve such change orders on a month to month basis up to a maximum of \$10,000. A spread sheet with a running total of the change orders will be maintained.

- Discussion then turned to fire suppression. The Fire Chief required a water pressure test before approving a new fire system for the Peck Center. However, Bristol County Water had not been able to do a flow test to make sure the system is sized appropriately in part because of the cold weather and in part because the Warren pumping station was not up and running. Without the station, there apparently cannot be

an accurate reading. It was agreed that this test needed to be done and to be done quickly.

- There had been some disagreement between the architects and the contractor about the specific light fixtures to be installed. Suggestions were made about how to work through this issue.
- The good news is that once these issues are resolved, there do not appear to be any other issues in place that will impede the progress of the project. The General Contractor still expects the project to be completed on schedule by early September.

The Trustees then went downstairs for a tour of the work site.

We returned to the original agenda.

The minutes of the February 17th meeting were approved as submitted.

Financial reports

The financial reports were reviewed and are on track.

Director's Report

Debra presented the statistical report for review and discussion. All appears to be status quo.

The annual Friends Meeting will be held on Sunday April 3 at 1:30 PM. There will be a musical group The Whompers performing. The Trustees were urged to attend the meeting in support of the Friends.

On Saturday, April 9 at 2 PM there will be a one person show about

Walt Whitman. This program will be paid by the Cronan Funds.

Debra reported that statewide department meetings need to have the agenda and minutes posted not only on the Town Hall and library website but also copies need to be sent to the secretary of state.

Old Business

Bob reported on progress he had made concerning discussions about the bills we have received from Tappe. An agreement has been reached for revisions of some of the original billings in keeping with the request of the Board.

New Business

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52.

**Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Blumstein
Secretary**